

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONROV 05968 091047Z

20

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /024 W

----- 045486

R 090940Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7430

USDOC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 5968

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: BDIS, LI

SUBJ: A. S. INDUSTRIES CASE

REF: MONROVIA 4727 B. MONROVIA 1372, ET AL.

1. EFFORTS TO LOCATE DARAMEY STILL UNSUCCESSFUL.

2. COMMERCIAL ATTACHE DISCUSSED COPY OF EXPORT ENTRY FORM (PROVIDED BY COMMERCE) WITH LANDS AND MINES DEPUTY MINISTER HOLMES AND MINISTRY'S EXPATRIATE DIAMOND EXPERT ALT OF DIAMOND APPRAISAL OFFICE. ALT MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS ON EXPORT ENTRY FORM:

A. A. S. INDUSTRIES UNKNOWN TO MINISTRY;

B. HE RECALLED SEEING THIS PARTICULAR FORM SOME MONTHS AGO IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATION MADE BY NATIONAL POLICE AND OTHER GOL OFFICIALS (HE UNAWARE RESULTS THAT INVESTIGATION);

C. VALUE LISTED ON FORM (ITEM 11) AND DUTY AND INSPECTION FEES (ITEM 12) INCONSISTENT. IF VALUE OF DIAMONDS ACTUALLY \$9,978,000 THEN DUTY WOULD HAVE BEEN \$299,340 (THREE PERCENT DUTY ACTUALLY ASSESSED AT RATE OF FIFTEEN PERCENT ON ASSESSED VALUE OF STONES, WHICH SET AT ONE-FIFTH OF ACTUAL VALUE). IF FIGURE (\$9,978,000) IN ITEM 11 QTE ASSESSED VALUE UNQTE THEN ACTUAL VALUE WOULD HAVE BEEN \$49,890,000 AND DUTY WOULD HAVE BEEN \$1,496,700. IF ALLEGED DUTY PAID (ITEM 12) ACTUALLY \$609,680, THEN ASSESSED VALUE WOULD
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MONROV 05968 091047Z

HAVE BEEN \$4,064,533.30 AND ACUTAL VALUE WOULD

HAVE BEEN \$20,322,666. IN ALT'S OPINION QTE FIGURES
JUST DON'T MESH AND ARE OBVIOUSLY
PHONEY UNQTE.

COMMENT: AS WE REPORTED IN PARA 6, REF B, TOTAL DIAMOND
EXPORTS REPORTED BY MINISTRY LANDS AND MINES FOR 1974 WAS
\$29,94 (ACTUAL VALUEL AND TOTAL DUTIES \$898,613.29.
END COMMENT

D. MINISTRY LANDS AND MINES CAN ACCOUNT FOR ALL APPLICATION
NUMBERS WHICH RN SERIALY - QTE APPLICATION NO. 1462 UNQTE
WHICH APPEARS ON FORM WAS NOT USED UNTIL MAY 2, 1975 AND
THEREFORE PHONY; AND,

E. EXPORT PERMITS ARE NUMBERED AS FOLLOWS: SERIAL NUMBER

BY YEAR
/COMMODITY NUMBER (186 FOR DIAMONDS)/MONTH*YEAR --
QTE EXPORT PERMIT NO. 196/314/8'74 REN UNQTE PHONEY AS
FOLLOWS: #196 HAD NOT BEEN REACHED THAT DATE, #314 DOES
NOT REFER TO DIAMONDS AND #8'74 WOULD HAVE BEEN #9'74
IF IT DATED SEPTEMBER 26, 1974 AS INDICATED.

3. ALT OBVIOUSLY INTRIGUED BY CASE AND REQUESTED THAT IF WE
INTENDING TO FOLLOW-UP, WE GET BACK TO HIM WITHIN WEEK
PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE ON LEAVE OR WAIT UNTIL HIS RETURN
(6 TO 8 WEEKS). HOWEVER, HE OFFERED NO SUGGESTIONS AS TO
HOW WE MIGHT PROCEED IN OUR INVESTIGATION.

4. COMMENT: EMBASSY THUS FAR HAS NOT RPT NOT MENTIONED
POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF A. B. TOLBERT IN MAKING INQUIRIES
INTO THIS CASE. WE FEEL WE HAVE GONE AS FAR AS WE CAN GO
WITHOUT NOTING TOLBERT ALLEGED INVOLVEMENT. WHILE IT STILL
POSSIBLE LOCATE DARAMEY (AND WE WILL TRY FROM TIME TO TIME),
WE CONTINUE TO FEEL RESOLUTION THIS MATTER CANNOT BE
EFFECTED WITHOUT LEGAL COUNSEL RETAINED BY U.S. PRINCIPALS
FOR US TO WORK WITH. ONLY OTHER ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE FOR
OFFICIAL EMBASSY INQUIRY TO GOL, AND EMBASSY RECOMMENDS
AGAINST SUCH APPROACH UNTIL SUCH TIME AS OBVIOUSLY
QUESTIONABLE ASPECTS OF CASE ARE RESOLVED. WE THEREFORE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MONROV 05968 091047Z

HOPE MATTER BE ALLOWED TO DIE NATURAL DEATH OR EMBASSY BE
GIVEN SOMETHING CONCRETE WORK WITH. END COMMENT.
MANFULL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MONROV05968
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750351-0135
From: MONROVIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751066/aaaacgso.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MONROVIA 4727, 75 MONROVIA 1372
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <12 DEC 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: A. S. INDUSTRIES CASE
TAGS: BDIS, LI
To: STATE COM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006